

**FILED**  
**03-23-2023**  
**Clerk of Circuit Court**  
**Jackson County, WI**  
**2023CF000033**

| STATE OF WISCONSIN   | CIRCUIT COURT  | JACKSON COUNTY   |
|--|--|------------------|
| STATE OF WISCONSIN   | DA Case No.: 2023JA000313<br>Assigned DA/ADA: Emily Hynek<br>Agency Case No.: 23-01962<br>Court Case No.: 2023CF<br>ATN: |                  |
| Plaintiff,   |  |                  |
| vs.  |  |                  |
| STAR S. MYERS<br>W10105 County Road O<br>Black River Falls, WI 54615<br>DOB: 11/15/1973<br>Sex/Race: F/W<br>Eye Color: HAZ<br>Hair Color: BLN<br>Height: 5 ft 08 in<br>Weight: 135 lbs<br>Alias: Also Known As Star Sheena Myers<br>Also Known As Star S Stegerwald<br>Also Known As Star Sheena Stegerwald<br>Also Known As Star S Swaim<br>Also Known As Star S Bork | <b>CRIMINAL COMPLAINT</b>  | For Official Use |
| Defendant.   |  |                  |

The undersigned complainant, being first duly sworn, states that:

**Count 1: FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE, DOMESTIC ABUSE, REPEATER, USE OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, did cause the death of VICTIM, with intent to kill that person, contrary to sec. 940.01(1)(a), 968.075(1)(a), 939.62(1)(c), 939.63(1)(b) Wis. Stats., a Class A Felony, and upon conviction shall be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 968.075(1)(a) Wis. Stats., because this charge is an act of domestic abuse, costs upon conviction would include the domestic abuse assessment imposed under sec. 973.055(1) Wis. Stats.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony, during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 6 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.63(1)(b) Wis. Stats., because the defendant committed this offense while using a dangerous weapon, the maximum term of imprisonment for the felony may be increased by not more than 5 years.

**Count 2: HIDING A CORPSE - PTAC, AS A PARTY TO A CRIME, REPEATER**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, as a party to a crime, did hide a corpse with the intent to conceal a crime, contrary to sec. 940.11(2), 939.05, 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., a Class F Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than twelve (12) years and six (6) months, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony, during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 6 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

**Count 3: POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON, REPEATER**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, did possess a firearm, having been convicted of a felony in this state, contrary to sec. 941.29(1m)(a), 939.62(1)(b) Wis. Stats., a Class G Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than ten (10) years, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(b) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 4 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

**Count 4: MAINTAINING A DRUG TRAFFICKING PLACE - PTAC, AS A PARTY TO A CRIME, REPEATER**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, as a party to a crime, did knowingly keep or maintain a dwelling which is used for delivering controlled substances in violation of chapter 961 Wis. Stats., contrary to sec. 961.42(1), 939.05, 939.62(1)(b) Wis. Stats., a Class I Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than three (3) years and six (6) months, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(b) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 4 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

And the Court may suspend the defendant's operating privileges for not less than six (6) months nor more than five (5) years. If the defendant's driving privileges are already suspended, any suspension imposed must be served consecutively.

**Count 5: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER COCAINE (> 40G) - PTAC, AS A PARTY TO A CRIME, REPEATER, SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, as a party to a crime, did possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance, to-wit: Cocaine, in an amount of more than 40 grams, contrary to sec. 961.41(1m)(cm)4, 939.05, 939.62(1)(c), 961.48(1)(a) Wis. Stats., a Class C Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), or imprisoned not more than forty (40) years, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony, during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 6 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 961.48(1)(a) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a subsequent offender, having been convicted of possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine >10-50 grams, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 6 years.

And the Court may suspend the defendant's operating privileges for not less than six (6) months nor more than five (5) years. If the defendant's driving privileges are already suspended, any suspension imposed must be served consecutively.

**Count 6: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER FENTANYL (<=10 G) - PTAC, AS A PARTY TO A CRIME, REPEATER, SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, as a party to a crime, did possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance, to-wit: fentanyl, in an amount of ten grams or less, contrary to sec. 961.41(1m)(dm)1, 939.05, 939.62(1)(c), 961.48(1)(b) Wis. Stats., a Class E Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000), or imprisoned not more than fifteen (15) years, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony, during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 6 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 961.48(1)(b) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a subsequent offender, having been convicted of possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine >10-50 grams, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 4 years.

And the Court may suspend the defendant's operating privileges for not less than six (6) months nor more than five (5) years. If the defendant's driving privileges are already suspended, any suspension imposed must be served consecutively.

**Count 7: POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DELIVER METHAMPHETAMINE - PTAC, AS A PARTY TO A CRIME, REPEATER, SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE**

The above-named defendant on or about March 6, 2023, to March 10, 2023, in the Town of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, as a party to a crime, did possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance, to-wit: Methamphetamine, in an amount of more than 10 grams but not more than 50 grams, contrary to sec. 961.41(1m)(e)3, 939.05, 939.62(1)(c), 961.48(1)(a) Wis. Stats., a Class D Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), or imprisoned not more than twenty five (25) years, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.62(1)(c) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a repeater, having been convicted of at least one felony, during the five year period immediately preceding the commission of this offense, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 2 years if the prior convictions were for misdemeanors and by not more than 6 years if the prior conviction was for a felony.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 961.48(1)(a) Wis. Stats., because the defendant is a subsequent offender, having been convicted of possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine >10-50 grams, which conviction(s) remain of record and unreversed, the maximum term of imprisonment for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 6 years.

And the Court may suspend the defendant's operating privileges for not less than six (6) months nor more than five (5) years. If the defendant's driving privileges are already suspended, any suspension imposed must be served consecutively.

**PROBABLE CAUSE:**

Your complainant is informed by law enforcement officers of the Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigation, the Wisconsin State Crime Lab Response Team, and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, all believed reliable based on prior professional experience, and on that basis makes this complaint.

**March 9, 2023:**

On Thursday, March 9, 2023, Deputy Conrad Bragee was dispatched to a residence in the Township of Manchester, Jackson County, Wisconsin, for a possible missing person. Star Myers [hereinafter, "Star"] reported that she had not seen VICTIM for two days and was very concerned. She reported that she had last seen him on Tuesday in the afternoon. She left for a few hours and when she returned he was gone. She identified several items missing from the residence that belonged to VICTIM, including his wallet, phone, and ear piece. She thought it was odd that he would be picked up by somebody. She said it was odd that he would not communicate with her. She did not report him missing on Tuesday because she did not want to seem "dramatic". She added that she was reporting to prison on March 11<sup>th</sup> and that had made VICTIM upset, but she has no reason to think he was suicidal.

Deputy Bragee asked to see the residence. Star appeared reluctant to allow him in, but acquiesced. Deputy Bragee noted the house appeared tidy and without sign of any struggle. Star pointed out a mug of coffee, now cold, that she reported she had given him before leaving on Tuesday.

**March 10, 2023:**

On Friday, March 10, 2023, Charles “Chuck” Samples and Katherine “Kathy” Howerton called the Jackson County Dispatch Center and reported that they had information that Star Myers had shot VICTIM in the head. Chief Deputy Adam Olson and Lieutenant Travis Brown responded to their residence. Kathy reported that on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Star called her and asked Kathy to come get her. Kathy said it was some time before she did so; hours went by but she did not know how many. When Kathy went to Star’s residence, Star stated that she wanted to put some of her items into a storage unit before leaving for prison that weekend. (According to CCAP, on February 9, 2023, Star was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment, consisting of 3 years of initial confinement and 3 years of extended supervision, and ordered to report to the Dunn County Jail to commence the sentence on March 11, 2023, in Dunn County case number 2019CF428.) Kathy observed that Star did not “look right” and asked Star “what was up”. Star asked Kathy if she could keep a secret, and Kathy stated she could. Star told Kathy that Star had killed VICTIM. Star stated that she had been giving VICTIM a massage on the bed and VICTIM told Star about other women he had slept with. Star stated “the next thing she knew” she had put a bullet in VICTIM’s head. Star stated they needed to get rid of the body. They called Charles, who came to the residence.

Charles stated that when he walked in to Star’s house, everybody was in the living room – Kathy, Star, Star’s son Jeffrey [Myers-Woychik] and Jeffrey’s significant other, [Savannah Pellett]. Star told Charles she had shot VICTIM in the head and confirmed that VICTIM was dead. Jeffery confirmed that VICTIM was laying in the bedroom. Charles stated that Star was talking to the air and holding a gun while she explained what happened. Charles stated that he told Star that he and Kathy had to go, and Star told him no. Charles stated that Star told him and Kathy that they needed to help her get rid of the gun, and handed him a firearm. At that time Charles claimed that she handed him the firearm already disassembled. (This was later contradicted by other witnesses, who reported Charles took the gun and placed it into a “Koolaid pitcher” of bleach or cleaning substance.) Charles then took the firearm and drove down the road throwing pieces of the gun out the window. Charles described this firearm as a “.380 auto”.

Kathy reported that while Charles was doing this, Star was trying to convince Kathy to act as an alibi witness for her and claim Star had been at her house. Star then stated that it was a botched robbery and began collecting items from the residence to take to Kathy’s residence. Kathy then drove Star to town to attend an AODA appointment. Star then came out of the appointment and began making statements about being suicidal. Kathy and Star retrieved the items from Kathy’s residence and returned Star home.

Kathy and Charles added that Star had made comments about what to do with the body, including cutting it up and burning it. Star stated she could “turn it off” in her brain in order to accomplish it.

Kathy stated that Star had texted her on March 9<sup>th</sup> and stated she had just reported VICTIM missing and told police Star and Kathy were together at the time. Kathy suggested this was a



lie. Kathy also stated that "in her panic" she had erased all the records of phone communication between her and Star. Chief Deputy Olson confirmed this after looking at Kathy's phone.

Charles described the relationship between Star and VICTIM in negative terms. He recalled Star saying that if VICTIM ever cheated on her she would shoot him in the head and put him in a hole.

Law enforcement attempted to "ping" VICTIM's phone without success.

Later on March 10, 2023, law enforcement located a handgun part in the area Charles described discarding parts of the firearm given to him by Star. This was a slide identified for a .380 handgun.

Law enforcement applied for and was granted a warrant for the residence. This was executed on the evening of March 10, 2023, and subsequent days. The scene was secured and held by law enforcement until the completion of the search warrant.

Five individuals were inside the residence when the warrant was executed; four refused to comply with commands to exit the residence and forced entry was made. The five individuals were: Jeffrey Myers-Woychik, Savannah Pellett, Matthew Simone, Vincent Simone, and Michael Petersen. (Jeffrey exited the residence voluntarily after repeated commands.) Star Myers was not present in the residence; she had earlier gone to the Jackson County Sheriff's Office voluntarily for an interview.

During the search, the following items of evidentiary value were located:

1. Red/brown staining on the mattress in VICTIM's/ Star's bedroom which appeared to be blood.
2. A circular saw blade and a straight blade consistent with a bone saw.
3. A locked safe containing a bolt-action rifle, a sawed-off double barrel 12 gauge shotgun without a serial number, several kinds of ammunition, and two digital scales.
4. A marriage license for Star and VICTIM.
5. In the room identified as used by Jeffrey and Savannah:
  - a. A Black Panther popcorn tin containing:
    - i. Numerous small plastic bags consistent with sales of controlled substances;
    - ii. Spoons, two of which had white substance on them;
    - iii. A digital scale with white powder residue;
    - iv. A butane torch;
    - v. A rapid response fentanyl test strip;
    - vi. A rubber container with a yellow wax substance weighing 18.9 grams; the substance tested positive for fentanyl;
    - vii. A re-sealable bag with a crystalline material weighing 24.5 grams and which field tested positive for methamphetamine;
    - viii. A clear sandwich bag with a white powder material weighing 86.8 grams which field tested positive for cocaine;

- ix. A gem bag with crystalline material weighing .8 grams which field tested positive for methamphetamine;
  - x. A gem bag with white powder weighing .9 grams which field tested positive for cocaine;
  - xi. 2 boxes marked "Stardust Stavia" with 11 cartridges;
  - xii. A Winchester 12 gauge birdshot shell, a CCI Blazer 9mm round, and a brown glass vial;
  - xiii. Acetaminophen/Hydrocodone Bitartrate pills and Oxycodone Hydrochloride pills in a bottle bearing the name of VICTIM.
  - b. Space Gods watermelon gummies package (THC & CBD edibles).
  - c. A silver and black Smith & Wesson 9mm handgun, loaded.
  - d. A Stoeger 12-gauge shotgun listed as stolen from Dunn County.
  - e. A double barreled shotgun with the barrels cut to 12 inches and the stock cut off to a pistol grip.
  - f. Black and green Motorola cell phone.
  - g. Inside a black speaker box:
    - i. A white t-shirt;
    - ii. Several clear plastic bags consistent with controlled substance packaging;
    - iii. Digital scale;
    - iv. Metal storage container;
    - v. 3 glass smoking devices;
    - vi. Glass extractor;
    - vii. Prescription pill bottle with the label removed containing 1 Levetiracetam, 3 Sulfamethoxazole and Trimethoprim, and 9 Omeprazole;
    - viii. 5 rapid response fentanyl test strips;
    - ix. Econolodge room key;
    - x. 48 Soboxone strips;
    - xi. Opened bag of Snickerz bites (THC 600 mg, not the regular candy) and Space Gods gummies (300mg THC + CBD) edibles;
    - xii. Glass jar with Thin Mint written on it containing a yellow substance weighing 95.4 grams (TPW), which field tested positive for methamphetamine and THC;
    - xiii. Black iPhone with cracked screen;
    - xiv. iPod w teal case;
    - xv. White iPhone;
    - xvi. Black glass skull bong with burnt residue;
    - xvii. Green leafy substance weighing 4.8g which field tested positive for THC;
    - xviii. Black .22 caliber Phoenix Arms handgun;
    - xix. Silver and gray Ruger P90 .45 caliber handgun, loaded;
    - xx. Black American Arms CX .22 caliber pistol in a blue safe, loaded, along with paperwork bearing Jeffrey's name;
  - h. A wallet containing a WI ID card for Savannah Pellett along with several \$20 bills.
6. In the living room:
- a. In a Remington gun case on a speaker:
    - i. A break action .22 caliber J. Stevens handgun;
    - ii. Black Hi Point C9 9mm handgun;

- iii. Bronze-colored Smith & Wesson revolver.
  - b. Letters addressed to Star Myers, VICTIM, and Thorn White Eagle at the residence's address.
7. In the kitchen:
- a. A globe pipe located in a slipper.
8. Outside the residence:
- a. An area that appeared to be the scene of a large bonfire;
  - b. Several burn barrels;
  - c. Items consistent with human remains and later confirmed as such by a forensic anthropologist, including bone fragments;
  - d. Eyeglasses consistent with those worn by VICTIM;
  - e. Screws with serial numbers, believed to be consistent with the type of screws used in surgery on humans, like the kind VICTIM had reportedly undergone.

On March 10, 2023, Detective Matt Koran and Special Agent Adam Frederick interviewed Star Myers at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, where she had presented herself voluntarily pursuant to their request. Star had not been informed that there was investigation regarding VICTIM as anything but a missing person. However, on the way to the interview room, Star asked if she was in trouble and "do you think I did this?". Detective Koran told her she was not in trouble and Star replied that maybe she watched too many cop shows. Star stated she wanted to speak to the detectives because she needed to find her husband. Star provided background information about VICTIM and the last time she claimed to have seen him. Star made statements expressing concern for VICTIM's health and that she wanted the fifty years with him that he had promised her so she was worried about his health problems. She stated she was unsure if she could live without him. Star also stated that she had been "off" methamphetamine for a couple of months and quitting was not as hard as she thought it would be. She also described herself as "a lot of crazy" and prone to overreaction. Star also stated she had told her attorney that she did not know how she could report to prison the following day without knowing where VICTIM was. Star stated that she was worried because VICTIM did not hang out with the best people, although she denied it was in relation to drug dealing. Star identified one of those friends was Milton Haskins, and another was his daughter Sarah. Star stated she did not know all of VICTIM's friends or doings because she would "flip out" since she liked to "stay as close to the letter of the law" as she could. She called their relationship "strong" and described herself as faithful and loyal while VICTIM was patient and so tolerant of her.

Star stated that her son Jeffrey and his fiancée [Savannah] lived with her and VICTIM. However, Star did not care for her son's fiancée much. Star noted that Savannah typically just stayed in her room a lot. Star described that VICTIM got along very well with both her children. When Star told Jeffrey and Savannah that VICTIM was missing, Jeffrey tried to reassure her that VICTIM probably just went to town. She noted that Savannah just sat there like a "dumb blonde". However, Star noted that if something had happened Jeffrey and Savannah would not have been able to hear it because VICTIM had completely soundproofed the Star/VICTIM bedroom, such that somebody could "scream bloody murder" and nobody even in the living room could hear. Star stated that she had observed that if VICTIM wanted to kill her, nobody would hear it.



Star stated that VICTIM did not have any firearms in the house but did keep one somewhere outside the house. However, Star stated she had previously found bullets in the house, identifying them as rifle or shotgun shells. Star stated that despite being a qualified expert with an M16 from her time in the armed services, she did not know what a 9mm bullet looked like.

Star denied that VICTIM had been unfaithful. She described that he liked to play "Captain Save-a-Ho" and spend time with other women but she believed him about his claimed fidelity. Nonetheless, she stated she constantly had "bitches" messaging her about VICTIM sleeping with them. Star stated that VICTIM needed people to need him and Star was too independent and did not ask for his help. Star also thought that VICTIM used these other women to test Star to see if she trusted him.

During the interview, Star learned that a search warrant was being executed at her residence. Jeffrey called her and informed her about law enforcement being there. The phone was put on speaker and Special Agent Frederick recommended Jeffrey cooperate with law enforcement demands. Star became very upset and identified that her son and her dogs were at the house. She also made statements about VICTIM having a lot of guns, including some stolen from Aaron Lowe, and that he did lots of bad things she did not know about.

Star talked about how she and VICTIM used Life 360 and asked if law enforcement could just look at that part of her phone to try to find VICTIM. She expressed that she did not want other information, like text messages, to be reviewed and given to a "drug task force". Law enforcement told her they were just trying to find VICTIM. Star then began to share information about VICTIM's drug use, including methamphetamine and cocaine, but did not know if anybody in the drug world would be mad at him. Star began to get angry and accused the detectives of ignoring the fact that her husband was missing just so they could do another drug bust. On a few occasions, she made comments like, "so you think I killed my husband" and that the case had gone from VICTIM missing to her killing him. Star said she believed VICTIM was okay.

On March 10, 2023, Detective Janelle Smokowicz interviewed Charles Samples. Charles further described the firearm he said Star had given him, which he stated he had seen before because VICTIM had shown it to him. He stated when Star gave it to him, it was in five pieces and had one spent casing loaded into the top slot of the magazine. He also stated the pieces were in a juice pitcher with a milky white substance he could not identify but which he stated did not have a chemical scent. He did not know what ended up happening to the pitcher. Charles stated he did not wear gloves but used some plastic bags that were in his vehicle. Charles reiterated that he had known Star for a while and at this time she was not "stable" and he had never seen her like this.

On March 10, 2023, Detective Justin Wathke had contact with Travis Hizer, who owned an auto shop across from the residence of VICTIM and Star. Hizer stated he had not seen VICTIM in a few days and this was unusual because VICTIM was always outside doing stuff around the residence. Hizer stated that in the past few days, later confirmed as March 8, 2023, at approximately 3:35pm, he had seen Jeffrey drive the vehicle he had only ever seen VICTIM drive, and Jeffrey unloaded a 55-gallon drum and put it in the backyard of the residence. Hizer described it as an empty burn barrel. Hizer stated that night, around 10:30 or 11:00pm, there was a big fire going on in the backyard of the residence and showed Detective Wathke a photo from the business's security camera. Hizer did not know what they were

burning and noted that he had never seen them carry wood into the backyard to build a fire. Security footage showed that the fire started around 9:20pm on March 8, 2023, and visible smoke was still going into the air the next morning at 8 a.m. Hizer also located other video from March 8, 2023, which depicted an individual Detective Wathke recognized from prior professional contacts as Milton Haskins going into the shed of the residence, retrieving a red gas can, and going back into the residence.

On March 10, 2023, DCI agents interviewed Jeffrey Myers-Woychik. Jeffrey disclaimed knowledge of the individuals who were in the residence with them at the time the search warrant was executed. He stated they had been invited by his mother to help Jeffrey clean some stuff in the shed. Jeffrey and Savannah had gone to pick them up earlier but did not know who they were. He thought his mother had hired them to come clean but did not believe they had been paid. Throughout the interview, Jeffrey expressed concern for his dogs and his girlfriend. He thought there would be no reason for him or his girlfriend to be in trouble or arrested.

The agents asked Jeffrey about the bonfire. He stated that it got "out of control, I'll tell you that for sure" and they would find a "shit ton" of blankets in it that belonged to him. He described that he went to Kwik Trip to get diesel fuel for the fire and pumped \$10 worth. He stated there was "a lot a lot a lot of garbage" in the fire. Jeffrey stated he put the gas can in a burn barrel so that the puppy would not chew on it and left it there until "whoever started the fire" used it. He then admitted his mom had started it. He stated he wanted a bonfire with his mom before she went to prison and his mom wanted to burn trash so they had a fire. He stated that his mom told him that all the trash that was burned got put into a barrel. Jeffrey then denied that he had been outside while the fire was burning and said it was so hot he could feel it from inside the house.

Jeffrey was asked what his mom told him about VICTIM leaving. Jeffrey stated that it was something to the effect of VICTIM getting pissed and storming off.

Jeffrey asked the agents several questions about what they knew, and the agents informed him that they knew a lot and were waiting for him to tell them the truth. Jeffrey stated that they're talking about his mom, who is the only person he has left in the world. He stated he did not want to make a mistake that has bad results. He asked the agents if they think his mom killed VICTIM. The agents asked Jeffrey to tell them what he knows happened. Jeffrey asked if he was facing any jail time for things. The agents responded that they could not give him advice but they could tell that they knew it was killing him to keep things inside. Jeffrey buried his face in his hands and began to jiggle his legs up and down and he groaned into his hands.

Jeffrey said he honestly did not help with the fire, he did not help make it. Jeffrey stated it sounds like the agents think he [VICTIM] is dead. Jeffrey stated they already know and his neighbor is an asshole. Jeffrey banged his hand and his head onto the table. Jeffrey stated, "Honestly, he's probably dead, yeah. There, that's what you wanted." The agents asked what he meant. Jeffrey stated that he hadn't seen VICTIM in days. The agents asked if VICTIM was dead then when was he killed. Jeffrey stated it was probably between Tuesday or Wednesday. He stated VICTIM was shot with a pistol, a "9". When asked who shot VICTIM, Jeffrey stated that all he knew was Chuck [Charles Samples] had the gun.

Jeffrey began to cry and stated he wanted to see his girlfriend. Jeffrey said he did not know how to feel about what was happening. Jeffrey expressed concern over his relationship and what they would say about each other in this situation.

Jeffrey stated he was woken up by his mom screaming for his help. She stood in his doorway and yelled "Wake the fuck up I need your help!" Jeffrey went to look in the room of his mom/VICTIM but his mom said not to and VICTIM was gone. Jeffrey then began to ask, "Did you already know this? Did I just put my mom in jail?" He stated he did not care about himself.

Jeffrey stated that VICTIM was shot in his bed but said he did not know more than that. Jeffrey stated his mom was crying and breaking down. Jeffrey stated that his mom said that while his mom was rubbing VICTIM's shoulders, VICTIM was telling his mom how he was "fucking this other bitch" while she had been in jail, and other females as well. Jeffrey stated that he told his mom he didn't want to hear any more than that. Jeffrey described that his mom loved VICTIM and was broken up about it but sometimes people do things in anger.

Jeffrey described that his mom called Kathy, and then they called Chuck. Chuck suggested ways to get rid of the body of VICTIM, including using a wood chipper or putting the body in a barrel and sinking it to the bottom of a body of water or burning it, and then he took the gun. Jeffrey stated he did not know who ended up moving the body but felt bad for whoever did because the body had smelled so badly. Jeffrey stated he could not have helped because he would have puked. Jeffrey stated that some other guys, not the ones who were in the house when the search warrant was executed, helped move the body. He claimed not to know the names but said one had a bandana. Jeffrey then stated that some of the bedding that was in the fire was his mother's from the bed. Jeffrey stated his mother or the guy in the bandana burned VICTIM's body. Jeffrey stated his mother said that VICTIM was completely burnt but he did not see it and his mother had the remains cleaned up by the time he saw the area. He stated his mother used a rake and burn barrels to deal with the ashes/remains.

Jeffrey stated that his mom had called Chuck and Kathy because with his anxiety he couldn't be much help to his mom. Jeffrey stated that Chuck and Kathy ended up not being very much help. Jeffrey stated he did not think he did anything wrong, legally, and he thought Savannah should get out of this without charges or anything too. He stated that they never touched VICTIM or the body. He did not even pay for the gas he put in the gas can for the fire (somebody else did). Jeffrey stated all he wanted to know is whether there was going to be prison time for him or Savannah.

Jeffrey showed the agents on a diagram of the house/property layout where the burn pit had been located and how the body was moved from the bedroom to the fire.

### **March 13, 2023:**

On March 13, 2023, Detective Matt Koran and Special Agent Frederick interviewed Star Myers at her request. Star stated, "Whatever my son said I did, I did it." Agent Frederick asked Star if she shot VICTIM, and Star denied it. When asked why her son would say she did then, Star asked, "he said I shot him?" When told that was true, she responded, "okay, I shot him". When asked if she indeed shot him, or if what her son said was not true, Star stated it was not true. She denied killing VICTIM. When asked if he died of natural causes, Star stated she did not know.

Star was asked if there was a fire in her backyard on Wednesday, and stated she thought so. SA Frederick stated that he had a background in arson investigations and was able to locate and identify several bones which had been damaged as a result of fire. When asked if she had tended the fire on Wednesday, Star was silent for several moments before indicating she did not kill VICTIM. When asked who killed VICTIM, she stated she did not know. She stated that she loved VICTIM and "curled up in that bed with him for 24 hours". She stated she was also trying to find out who did it. When asked why VICTIM had been burned in the backyard, Star stated, "the smell". She stated he began to smell on Wednesday. SA Frederick asked if it was true that Star asked her son and his fiancée to help get rid of the body, and Star said she couldn't remember. Then she stated that her son did not have anything to do with it.

Star was asked if it was true that she gave Charles Samples and Kathy Howerton a gun to get rid of. Star stated they took the gun but she did not want them to. She stated Charles told her what to do, indicating that he assumed Star had killed VICTIM. Star stated that she moved VICTIM herself and nobody helped her.

SA Frederick began to speak to Star about how fire attacks a body, and Star interrupted him and said that she did not burn VICTIM. She stated she did not know who started the fire in the backyard and that VICTIM did not burn there. She could not explain why body parts were found and said she was burning her Christmas tree and trash which might have had turkey bones in it. She stated she did not believe that VICTIM's bones were found in her yard.

Star was asked why her son would say that Star shot VICTIM. Star stated her son was not a liar and whatever he said she did, she did. Star was asked if it was accurate that she told her son that she had shot VICTIM, and she stated, "if he said that, yes". She stated she did not remember telling her son that, but if he said it happened, it did.

Star stated that VICTIM was bleeding when she found him dead but she could not bear to look to see where he was bleeding from. She stated she did see that his face was purple. She stated that he was her whole world and she wanted to kill herself and curl around him and die. She stated she would never love again and her heart was now gone. When asked about her kids, she stated her kids have their own world and VICTIM was hers.

On March 13, 2023, Chief Deputy Adam Olson interviewed Savannah Pellett in the Jackson County Jail. Pellett stated that she lived with her mother in Menomonie, Wisconsin, and was just staying at Jeffrey's residence with him, because she had been in a relationship with Jeffrey for the past three and a half years. Pellett stated that she had been awakened one morning by Star Myers yelling in the doorway of the bedroom where she was sleeping with Jeffrey. Star stated that she had killed VICTIM because she could not take his cheating and lying any longer. Pellett stated she never saw VICTIM's body except when it was being moved to the backyard. She stated she mostly kept to herself after being told VICTIM was dead. Pellett stated a lot of people were coming into and out of the house and Star was moving things out of the house. Pellett stated that Star was already going to prison and was moving things into a storage unit. Pellett denied that she had helped move anything from the house to the storage shed.

Pellett stated that she, Jeffrey, and a man she called Jerry went to WalMart and to get gas. Pellett denied knowing if the gas was put in the car or into a can. Pellett stated that at WalMart

they purchased groceries, curtains and, when questioned directly, stated they purchased bedding because Star had thrown blankets out back. Pellett stated that she and Jeffrey had not worked for months and had no money of her own, and that Star allowed them to use her food card and often gave them money. Pellett denied using any drugs besides marijuana, and that Jeffrey had the same drug use. Pellett admitted that law enforcement had likely found cocaine at the house because Star sold cocaine. Pellett thought there might also be methamphetamine there for the same reason. Pellett stated she had seen Star selling the drugs at the residence. Pellett stated that Star kept the drugs in Star's room. Pellett was also aware of collector guns in the residence and said she had seen Star with a small black gun. Pellett denied that she had ever seen Jeffrey with a gun. She denied knowing about the guns law enforcement had observed in plain sight in the bedroom she confirmed was the one she used with Jeffrey. Pellett had no information about the drugs found in her room and reiterated that Star and VICTIM both sold drugs.

Pellett denied knowing who the other males that were arrested in the residence the previous Friday were and reiterated that she had been staying mostly to herself while Jeffrey talked to people.

**March 14, 2023:**

On March 14, 2023, JASO detectives spoke to Jeffrey Myers-Woychik at his request. Jeffrey stated he did not want any further charges because he and his girlfriend were already about to do someone else's time. Jeffrey stated he had nothing to do with the drugs found during the execution of the search warrant because the drugs were his mother's. Also, he did not know it was illegal to possess a short-barreled shotgun and it was supposed to be a gift for his sister. He stated the guns were given to him by his mother or placed in his room during the search warrant by one of the other guys who had been arrested then. When asked why the guns were in his room instead of anywhere else in the house, Jeffrey stated his mother would be immediately identified as the owner of anything placed in the spare room. Jeffrey stated the popcorn tin of drugs and other items in his room were put there during the search warrant because "Mike" [Michael Petersen, present during the search warrant execution] said that law enforcement could not search Jeffrey's things if the warrant was for his mother's stuff. He denied knowing what was in the popcorn tin or speaker. He stated his mother and VICTIM were selling drugs together.

Jeffrey stated that he had gone to get diesel fuel at Kwik Trip on Wednesday afternoon with Savannah and Milt Haskins, on the way to drop Milt off at home, but he did not know they were going to stop for fuel until Milt told him to stop and get \$10/worth for Jeffrey's mother. Milt paid for the fuel. Jeffrey stated he had picked Milt up approximately two hours earlier at his mother's request. He denied knowing why his mother wanted Milt to come over.

Jeffrey identified a man named "Jerry" as coming over the following day. He stated that Jerry helped place VICTIM on the fire and Jerry washed blood off his pants before leaving. When asked about the barrels located in the backyard of the house, Jeffrey stated three of them were for burning trash and the detectives could assume what the fourth one was for, later confirming it was for the body of VICTIM. Jeffrey stated he had a conversation with his mother who informed him she had raked up the backyard and put VICTIM into that barrel. He stated the fourth barrel had come from Milt, who placed the barrel in the back of Jeffrey's car when he dropped Milt off after picking up the diesel.



**March 16, 2023:**

On March 16, 2023, detectives again interviewed Jeffrey at his request. He stated he had been "almost completely honest" up to this point. The detectives asked him to start from the beginning in that case. Jeffrey stated he did not remember when he went into the bedroom to see VICTIM but it was not the first day. He stated when he did, there was blood everywhere and a blanket over VICTIM's face. Jeffrey stated his mother told him that the bullet had stayed in VICTIM's head because it did not splatter everywhere. Jeffrey also stated that it was not the plan for Charles to get rid of the gun and his mother wanted to do that. Jeffrey stated that Charles did have an idea to put VICTIM in a barrel and put it at the bottom of the lake, but Jeffrey told him that would result in the body being found right away (which he knew from watching TV). Jeffrey thought burning VICTIM was Milt's idea. Jeffrey stated Charles eventually left with the gun in a Kool-Aid pitcher covered in bleach, which was Charles's idea to remove fingerprints. Charles and Katherine also initially encouraged Star to get rid of the body right away, but Star wanted to lay with the body for three days, which Jeffrey thought was a bad idea.

Jeffrey stated that the next day his mother told him to go pick up Milton Haskins. On the way back from picking him up, they stopped at Kwik Trip to get his mom a slushy. Jeffrey stated that Milton did not know what had happened so Jeffrey tried to "test" him to see if Milton could be trusted. Jeffrey asked Milton if he would help get rid of a body, and Milton stated he would not. When they arrived back at Star's mother's residence, Milton was told what happened and Milton replied, "Oh, kind of figured it was something like that." Star then took Milton to see VICTIM. Milton said that they needed to get new sheets, a new comforter, and a new foam pad from WalMart after they dropped Milton back at home. Milton also said that when Jeffrey took him back home, Jeffrey needed to pick up a barrel and some wood. They stopped at Kwik Trip and Milton told Jeffrey to put \$10.00 in diesel into a gas can Milton had put in the car prior to leaving. When Jeffrey dropped Milton off, Jeffrey backed up to the house and Milton put the barrel in the trunk; Jeffrey then put the gas can into the barrel.

Jeffrey stated that after he got home, he took the barrel and fuel and put them into the backyard. He stated that other people had come and gone during this time period and his mother told them that VICTIM ran off after a fight. One of the people who came by was his mother's drug dealer, named Shawn/Shawn/Sean [hereinafter "Shawn" for simplicity]. Shawn brought fentanyl, methamphetamine, and cocaine for his mother. Jeffrey stated Shawn brought 4 ounces and he knew this because the next day he heard his mother ask somebody if they knew anybody who would take four ounces of cocaine.

Jeffrey identified another person who came over as "Jerry" [later confirmed via investigation and multiple photo lineups to be Gerardo Trevino]. Jerry had come over to drop off wax and "slick" (drugs), and when he was there, his mother told Jerry what had happened to VICTIM. Jerry came back that or the next night, right before the fire was going on. Jerry helped drag the body out of the house and also offered to cut it up. Jeffrey stated while they were carrying the body it started to slip out of Jerry's hands and Jerry yelled for Jeffrey to come grab the corner of the blanket and help carry it. Jeffrey remembered that it smelled really bad. He recalled that the day of the fire others who had been to the house also commented that it had smelled bad in the house. Jeffrey recalled that he had picked up aluminum foil at WalMart and was instructed to lay it across the top of an old box spring, using the same concept as heating

food over a fire where aluminum foil helps it burn faster. [Law enforcement confirmed that they found a large amount of aluminum foil in the burn area.] That's when Jerry yelled to come help carry the body. Jeffrey stated his mother was gagging. He stated he could only carry it to the door because of the smell. Jeffrey said he saw Jerry and his mother put the VICTIM onto the mattress. Jeffrey stated he did not see Jerry cut anybody up because they could not find a chainsaw that did not belong to them; he explained that if you are going to cut somebody up you did not want to use your own tools.

Jeffrey stated that he did look outside while VICTIM was burning and saw what looked like expanding Styrofoam and realized it was actually VICTIM's insides. He could see that VICTIM's arm was up in the air and he could see VICTIM's right leg. After about an hour and a half, Star told Jeffrey it wasn't going well and she asked him to get a bunch of wood off the trailer, which Jeffrey did. Jeffrey stated the fire became so hot he could barely walk by it. Jeffrey described the fire as "dangerously high". Jeffrey checked out the front door to make sure the fire could not be seen over the top of the house.

Jeffrey stated the day the patrol deputy came out, he looked around the house but did not look in the backyard.

Jeffrey stated that he went to WalMart to get the things Milton told him to on Friday when he picked up Vincent.

Your complainant is aware that law enforcement observed surveillance from the Black River Falls Wal-Mart and Kwik Trip. At Kwik Trip, video portrayed Jeffrey putting diesel into a gas canister which was paid for by Haskins. At Wal-Mart, video portrayed Savannah helping Jeffrey to select and purchase items including new items of bedding; detectives confirmed it was the same bedding found at the VICTIM's residence.

Jeffrey described the drug dealing engaged in by VICTIM and Star, and the drug use of everyone in the family. Jeffrey stated that he and Savannah used small amounts of cocaine and marijuana, and his mother used to use methamphetamine and would use crack in the evenings to work on her appeal for her prison sentence. Jeffrey stated he had recently been "slowing down" because he would be the man of the house soon. Jeffrey also described that there were arguments and some violence between VICTIM and Star, but stated that it was from VICTIM toward Star and claimed he was not just trying to make his mother seem like the better person.

Jeffrey stated that he initially did not plan to help his mother in this but when Charles and Katherine got involved he decided to get involved because he did not want to lose his mother in jail with her health problems. He stated that he knew she had already been sentenced to prison but she told him there was a chance she would skip out on going and help him figure out what to do and go on the run since she knew he would not be able to handle the questioning, the business, and the pets. However, Jeffrey stated he did not think anything he had done was punishable up until the point he helped carry the corner of the blanket with VICTIM inside. He stated he did not kill VICTIM and only helped his mother because he wanted to spend time with her and his mother told him that she might not have to go to prison if VICTIM was still missing because the judge might show her mercy.

Your complainant is aware that on or about March 13, 2023, law enforcement widely distributed a press release describing that human remains were found at a residence in a location matching that of VICTIM and Star Myers, subsequent to Star reporting a person missing, and that Star and VICTIM's stepson were then arrested, among others. However, on information and belief, law enforcement has received no contact from VICTIM nor information from anybody who has claimed to have contact with VICTIM since the date he was reported missing. On further information and belief, law enforcement has no evidence that a person besides VICTIM was the source of the human remains found in the burn barrels and burned area on Star's property.

On information and belief, the above-related incident occurred in Jackson County, Wisconsin.

**CONVICTION RECORD OF THE DEFENDANT:** Your complainant has reviewed the records of the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access Program (CCAP), maintained in the regular course of business, and is aware that the defendant has the prior criminal convictions which, on information and belief, remain of record and unreversed:

| CONV. DATE | JURISDICTION | CASE NUMBER | SEV.   | OFFENSE/SENTENCE  |
|------------|--------------|-------------|--------|---|
| 10-14-2022 | Dunn         | 2019CF428   | Fel D  | Possess w/Intent-Methamphetamine >10-50g<br>WSP 6y, IC 3y, ES 3y<br>*Sent date: 2/9/23; Report date: 3/11/23* |
|            |              |             | Fel H  | Felony Bail Jumping<br>Probation  |
|            |              | 2019CF426   | Misd A | Domestic Battery<br>Costs   |
| 02-08-2021 | Eau Claire   | 2020CF535   | Fel I  | Fleeing/Eluding an Officer<br>Probation   |
|            |              | 2019CF1507  | Fel H  | Felony Bail Jumping<br>Probation  |
|            |              | 2018CF1444  | Fel H  | Operating While Intoxicated – 4th<br>Probation  |
|            |              | 2017CM1148  | Misd A | Bail Jumping<br>Costs   |
| 07-09-2019 | Chippewa     | 2019CF323   | Misd U | Operating After Revocation<br>Fine  |
| 03-13-2018 | Eau Claire   | 2016CT176   | Misd U | Operating While Intoxicated-3rd<br>Probation-revoked-jail   |
| 09-04-2007 | Trempealeau  | 2006CM345   | Misd B | Disorderly Conduct<br>Costs   |
| 10-20-2003 | Trempealeau  | 2003CT82    | Misd U | Cause Injury/Operating While Intoxicated<br>Probation   |
|            |              | 2003CT33    | Misd U | Operating While Intoxicated-2nd<br>Jail, Fine, AODA/DSP, DL revocation  |

Based on the foregoing, the complainant believes this complaint to be true and correct.

*Subscribed and sworn to before me on 03/23/23*

*Electronically Signed By:*

*Emily Hynek*

*District Attorney*

*State Bar #: 1072106*

*Electronically Signed By:*

*Beth Hammond*

*Complainant*

